Report on Parthenium Awareness Week (16-22 Aug 2021) Krishi Vigyan Kendra, (ICAR-VPKAS) Chinyalisaur, Uttarkashi

Directorate of Weed Research, Jabalpur every year launches Parthenium awareness week to educate farmers on its ill effects on biodiversity, human and animal health. This year, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, (ICAR-VPKAS) Chinyalisaur observed 16th Parthenium awareness week *w.e.f.* 16th to 22nd August, 2021. In this awareness programme all KVK officials, RAWE students, villagers and field workers actively participated and cleaned this obnoxious weed.

On first day of the programme *i.e.* 16th August 2021, Webinar was organized by the Indian Society of Weed Science and ICAR-DWR, Jabalpur on "The Parthenium weed problem and its management at the global level". A presentation was also given by the renowned weed scientist Dr. Steve W. Adkins, School of Agriculture and Food Sciences, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia. Dr. Adkins is one the authorities on Parthenium and has worked on its different aspects at global level.

Dr. Chitrangad Singh Raghav, Principal Scientist-cum-Head of KVK Uttarkashi, started the programme by delivering lecture to the participants about the introduction of Parthenium in India and its' hazards on environment and health. During the week, Parthenium Awareness was organized in adopted and nearby villages, in which village community participated in Parthenium removal from road sides and main fields of the farmers. The farming community and residents of nearby villages were also informed about menace & consequences of this notorious weed on crop yield and health Management by biological means (by releasing beetles at different places) and mechanical means *i.e* uprooting the weed and utilizing it in making compost for farm use was also demonstrated to the farmers and local residents.

The whole programme was a grand success in view of providing general awareness about this weed among the public. Some photographs of the event are hereunder:











